

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 1773
PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE APPLICATION OF:

Randall Allen Vogel et al

SERIAL NO.: 09/833452

FILED: April 12, 2001

FOR: Multilayer, Co-Extruded, Ionomeric Decorative Surfacing

CASE NO.: AD6728USNA

GROUP ART UNIT: 1773

EXAMINER: Monique R. Jackson

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Concurrently with the submission of the request for continued examination, applicants submit an amendment to the specification beginning at page 2, an amendment to the claims beginning at page 3, and a REMARKS section beginning at page 10.

The interview courteously granted to applicants' representative on July 19, 2005, is acknowledged with appreciation. During the interview, the examiner advised that the second co-extruded layer in claim 1 be amended to "consisting of a polymer selected from the group consisting of ionomer and ionomer-polyamide blend" and that a CIP be filed to prosecute the recitation of ionomer-polyethylene. This and other discussions are incorporated in the following amended claims.

During a telephone discussion between the examiner and applicants' representative on August 8, 2005, the examiner also advised that claim be amended to recite a second co-extruded polymeric layer consisting of a polymer and that claim 82 be cancelled. The claims are accordingly amended.